

Do you not use too strong language when you speak of Miss Martineau's fall? Is Miss M. fully convinced of the deceitfulness of her servant? If she were, is there, can there be, any doubt that she would frankly admit it, at whatever cost to herself?

The "Protest" of our 173 Ministers is indeed, as you say, a most important move. The object of my letter in the Worcester Spy was not to impair its effect, but (twofold) 1<sup>st</sup>. To correct a mis-statement of the Editor. 2<sup>d</sup>. To direct public attention to the non-subscribers. I wish they might feel necessitated to come out with an apology, or a defence, or anything.

You say "I so often agree in opinion with those who attack your [my] party, that I find it a difficult matter to defend it as I could wish to do." To make anything like a full reply to this would be too serious a work for this late hour of the night. I feel little of the difficulty you speak of. Where I disagree with those, with whom I generally act in this or any other cause, I do not hesitate to say so. I do not think it necessary to make it a condition of joint action, that I should be able to approve all that others think & say. If I thought so, I would take myself out of the Unitarian body without delay. In the Anti-Slavery Cause we have a great work - a noble & glorious end - a high duty - a solemn trust; let all labour - each and all - as the Spirit gives them power; let each speak, as the Spirit gives him utterance. Better some wildness & looseness of expression, than fetters & restraints on the mind or lips - especially in the Anti-Slavery cause. This seems to me a safe and sure position; one in which I secure my own rights, do nothing to impair those of others.



and combine all that is harmonious in the working out  
of the great end in view. A just and equal freedom to  
me another, while we strive for the freedom of the Slave.

This is the principle. If then you dissent from us, Sir, do  
not conceal it, & especially if it be on any important point.  
I am sure you agree with us in enough to enable you to be  
a hearty co-worker; and the longer you are in it, the more,  
(I believe) will you agree in the great positions occupied  
by the "old-organised" Abolitionists of this country. Their  
position with regard to the Pro-Slavery ~~and~~ character of the U. S.  
constitution is fully sustained by Cassius M. Clay - a good  
authority in the case; as it is by ~~skilful~~ <sup>trustworthy</sup> men very  
generally. The case is too plain for them to doubt. Yet the  
"Liberty Party" persist in maintaining the purely Antislavery  
character of that instrument. A greater contradiction to all  
the facts of the case can hardly be imagined.

I am glad to hear you say that "Amicus" (in the Inquirer)  
goes too far, in your opinion, in defence of the Am<sup>n</sup>. Clergy.  
A subsequent letter signed "A lover of Charity & truth" (I think)  
is very much worse. I expressed my opinion of it in a late  
letter to Mr. Armstrong - pretty warmly, I believe. Such  
sentiments we have any quantity of here. They seem altogether  
out of place, and unnatural, in an English Unit<sup>n</sup>. paper. Yet  
would I not proscribe, or censure, or give up, the "Inquirer" for  
admitting such dangerous palliations of the grossest offences against  
God and man. I rejoice that ~~the~~ <sup>as</sup> its columns are <sup>as</sup> freely open  
to the exposure & correction of the error, as to the error itself -  
+ Mr. Sturge's assertion that the "Liberty party" ~~was~~ <sup>is</sup> the efficient  
Antislavery Society, by contrast with the old Abolitionists, and  
that it "embraces all the finest minds among the Abolitionists"  
is unworthy of his repute, and is wholly untrue. The



or Society  
party which embraces the names of Phillips, Garrison,  
Quincy, Follen, Mott, Child, Chapman, Kelly, &c.  
has names which are inferior to none, ~~and~~ in the Anti-  
Slavery ranks, or out of them. Even Judge Jay, by far

the strongest man who has acted with the "Liberty party" utterly rejects their doctrine of the Antislavery character of the Constitution, and heartily adopts & advocates <sup>our</sup> ~~the~~ position, that there is no hope for the Slave save in the Dissolution of this Union.

As to the matter of voting or non-voting, I would refer you to an article in the "Liberator" of Nov. 7. 1845. headed Disunion Ballots. This is all the voting, it seems to me, which can be done by Antislavery men, under our Const.

In looking over yours of Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>, I find you saying with regard to our Ministers' "Protest" - "I expect the Liberator will call it Pro-Slavery, because people are left to act out their own judgment & conscience." I trust you have seen what the "Lib." did say; how hearty & unreserved it was in its commendations! An agreeable surprise!

Now I must stop, though I have been obliged to pass over several topics untouched in your excellent letter of Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>. My sincere regards to Miss Estlin. Please say to Mr. James that I had hoped to write him, by this opportunity, & thank him for his note, Copies of Sermon, &c. but must wait awhile. My respects to him, & to Mr. Armstrong and all my Bristol friends.

Hoping that you will soon fully recover your health and strength, I remain, Respectfully

Yours, Samuel May.



Bristol, January 29<sup>th</sup> - Feb 7<sup>th</sup> 1846

My dear Mr. May.

Your letter of December 29<sup>th</sup> reached me on the 28<sup>th</sup> Jan<sup>y</sup>. I presume the box was not sent by the first Jan<sup>y</sup> steamer for we received the "Liberator" of Jan<sup>y</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> on the 17<sup>th</sup> following: this seemed very rapid transmission. Many thanks for your letter and for the accompanying publications which were forwarded to me by Chapman. You do not mistake my interest in your correspondence in writing to me so freely as you do, & as you are inclined to suppose, in a gossiping style: it is impossible for me otherwise clearly to comprehend the various bearings of things & persons on which you kindly desire to give me information. I am quite satisfied now I find that the heaviest portion of the letter postage does not fall on you. Your mode however of sending by Chapman is a good, if not a quick one: for books it is decidedly best, as many shillings have sometimes been charged us upon a pamphlet inadvertently sent by Post from Am<sup>a</sup>. Next to Printing, our reduced Postage is the greatest blessing

to this country as regards the spread of knowledge & the cultivation of sound <sup>opinion</sup> ~~instruction~~, and the interests of commerce. And the revenue is fast getting up to what it used to be. Rowland Hill has conferred on Britain far more valuable services than the D. of Wellington has. Sometime I may tell you about the testimonial presented to him.

With you, I have never been able to believe there can be a war between our countries. Whatever may be the notion of who is right or who wrong among those who have studied the Oregon question (I know nothing about it) I believe there is the very reverse of a war feeling thro' out this country. Our soldiers & sailors might not be displeased to exercise their vocation in any quarter of the world in the hope of getting money or honour in their trade, but even with them I believe there is no war feeling against America. <sup>I do not believe your Gov<sup>t</sup> intend to wish for</sup> In our public national Councils a solemn feeling, & dignified conduct seem to prevail on the subject, as far as I can judge, very different from the state of the American Legislative Assemblies. Mr. J. L. Adams would like speak surprised me! Did he make it from hostility to the slaveholders, or to some other party purposes? Is it not unworthy of him <sup>if serious</sup> ~~as~~ has venality come over him?



I notice the remarks in your letter regarding, as the best method of con-  
densing what I say, & not losing my writing time in a rambling and half-  
told tale. - I am glad you liked Chambers's Volume. My daugh-

ter will not let me "execute your order" as to the other volumes, but  
begs you will allow her to introduce herself to the acquaintance of your  
little ones by begging them requesting their acceptance from her of those  
volumes. She would have written her good wishes in one of the books  
but it will be more convenient to have them sent direct from London.  
Mr. Chapman has orders to forward them by the next parcel he  
sends out, addressed to you, to the care of Messrs Crosby & Nichol. The  
value of the present as need not disturb you; any separate tract may  
be procured for one penny.

Thank you for your consideration  
about my health, but I can assure you it is quite equal, as much as  
my inclination is, (& that is strong enough,) to do any thing that can be  
useful or acceptable to you. I am thankful to say that I am

now as well as I can expect to be after my severe illness in the  
summer, ~~and being~~ <sup>after</sup> ~~an~~ an anxious, though interesting life of  
labour for 30 years, & now being 60 years old. I can walk several  
miles, attend moderately to <sup>my</sup> ophthalmic practice, and tho' with a  
weakened constitution, <sup>am</sup> free from any specific disease. My illness  
was attended by a fearful event that I cannot yet contemplate without  
deep emotion. After some days of dysenteric disease, I was a little easier  
& my daughter, worn out with anxiety & night nursing, <sup>after sleeping</sup> rose suddenly in  
the night to give me a rhubarb draught, but by mistake poured out  
a bottle of Laudanum ~~by mistake~~ which I drank. My nephew who slept  
in the house to watch over me was promptly with me. I was immediately  
aware of the accident & was perfectly calm. I had previously contem-  
plated dissolution with tranquillity & resignation: its ~~near~~ prospect  
did not ~~then~~ <sup>me</sup> alarm, but the thought of the sorrow such a death would throw  
over the remainder of my daughter's life induced me while conscious.  
myself remained, to do <sup>all that</sup> ~~every thing necessary~~ I possibly ~~for~~ could, to pre-  
serve my life, & I was told after, that while insensible to external objects  
I repeatedly, on being roused, expressed my desire in my daughter's account  
to do every thing required of me. After many hours of comparative ease



to myself, but of distressing anxiety to the numerous beloved relatives by  
whom I was surrounded, I was mercifully restored to safety. I understood  
that during some of my worst symptoms my daughter was too exhausted by  
previous fatigue to be aware of my condition. When you write, <sup>as it</sup> ~~be~~ <sup>be</sup> ~~pleased~~ <sup>pleased</sup> not to refer to this subject, ~~it~~ <sup>as it</sup> would be painful to my daughter.  
I cannot recur to the subject ~~event~~ without the deepest emotion, &  
feel so thankful at not ~~being~~ <sup>having been</sup> called on any under circumstances that would  
have left so heavy a cloud over the future days of the dearest object of my  
earthly regards, as to be quite ready & willing, (I can almost say  
cheerfully) to resign my life into the hands of my Heavenly Father  
whenever he sees fit to require it. My sister in law Mrs. Mitchell  
a widow, to whom my daughter is much attached, came to help her  
nurse me, & has not left us since. Sportively called by one of my  
medical friends my "faithful guardians," they watch me with  
a degree of care & solicitude quite unnecessary (at least so  
I think) now. But how much a dangerous & severe illness leads  
one to appreciate the value of sympathy & affection, and the un-  
merited alleviations ~~in~~ <sup>of in time of sickness</sup> ~~at least~~ by which those in easy  
circumstances are surrounded!

You will perceive that I am addressing you in a very un-  
restrained way. Perhaps I should hardly have entered into all  
these minutiae had not some of them appeared in print: my  
case having been, as a one of medical interest, detailed at a general  
meeting of an Assoc<sup>n</sup> of which I am President, <sup>the proceedings of the meeting</sup> & having been subse-  
quently reported in the "Provincial Med. & Surgical Journal".

At present I need not trouble you about books, as Chapman  
tolerably quickly procured those I ordered. Among them was "Walker's  
Narrative"; I thank you however for furnishing me with a second copy  
for lending. The plate of the cruel beating of a woman I have  
not thought it necessary to remove, though I should not especially  
point it out to any one. It explains to me a mode of punishment



I could not quite comprehend and defend. The objectionable passage in Douglass might be otherwise expressed without concealing the enormity of the proceeding. Its existence, in its present form has greatly limited the sale of the book in Bristol. I have fully discussed the point with Mr. Rich<sup>d</sup>. Webb of Dublin who has published the Cork edition, & he will adopt in another edition, should one be called for, (I presume with F. D.'s approbation) an alteration that I have suggested.

And now as to F. Douglass. I felt much interested in him by reading the "Liberator" long before you mentioned him. As soon as I heard of his being in Ireland I wrote to Mr. Rich<sup>d</sup>. D. Webb about him from whom I soon received 50 copies of the "Narrative" which Mr. W. had just printed. These I quickly sold to friends, & had 50 more. The second lot was not long on hand, and I have now by me a third parcel <sup>that</sup> contains ~~only~~ 100 copies which are rapidly diminishing. The price is 2/6 each, & I remit the money to Mr. Webb (who kindly undertakes Douglass's financial affairs in this matter) as soon as I have disposed of 50 books. The last set of the "Narrative" contains a portrait which Mr. Webb says is an accurate likeness. I much prefer it, (as a countenance for I have not seen F. D.) to that in the Boston edition which has a scornful, contemptuous look. I have written to F. Douglass to invite him to take up his abode at my house when he visits Bristol & he has written an answer of acceptance which has much interested my friends & myself. Mr. Edward Thomas, a most actively benevolent Quaker, has expressed his great desire to receive Douglass as his guest & should my uncertain health deprive me of the satisfaction of showing him hospitality. I am now endeavouring to excite an interest in Douglass in this populous & wealthy city, & with that view put into our local papers a short notice of him. It was transcribed into the "Inquirer", & I believe other papers. A Lady <sup>in whose house</sup> with whom Douglass was staying while at Cork, writes to me about him in warm terms of great respect and even admiration. It seems he has much tact & discretion.



2<sup>nd</sup> and is likely to take a judicious course in his public harangues -  
I suppose you have seen ere now, the account of a public breakfast given  
to him at Belfast presided over by a Member of Parliament? It is only  
distinguished persons who are thus complimented here. What would  
his Master & other Southerners say were they to hear of this proceeding?  
I have ordered of Chapman an "Oration on the Slave Laws" which  
he is to score. If you could help Mr. Crosby in procuring this for me,  
I should be obliged. I am reading "Slavery as it is" - what an exposure  
of sin & suffering!

I am acquainted with the progress of the Cambrian who sailed  
J. Douglass & who gave me full particulars of the disturbance. He likes  
Douglass, & said he behaved quite well on that occasion; Capt. Jenkins  
however, did not shine in the affray quite as much appears in the  
printed statement. Do not however, repeat this.

H. C. Wright's "Disputation of the Union" is a most valuable production.  
I am circulating many copies. I am not an unlimited admirer of  
Mr. Wright: I have seen some of his notions which I have thought  
foolish if not mischievous. His unmeasured abuse of a Sabbath  
disgusts me. Though misapprehended, abused, & hypocritically per-  
verted by numbers, tens of thousands in this country are indebted to  
the ~~valuable arrangement~~ <sup>important appointment</sup> of a day of rest & inducement to religious  
exercise, for which they would in no other way have acquired, <sup>for</sup> what  
has been invaluable to their peace & comfort thro' the whole of  
their lives. - Mr. Wright <sup>justly</sup> ~~unjustly~~ & as I think, ~~unchristianly~~

speaks of some distinguished Scottish Ministers as "tipplers" because  
they do not join the Temperance Socy? I am always rejoiced to see  
Ministers unite in these institutions, but should be cautious in con-  
demning them if they do not. I wish the Free Church of Scotland  
would not keep the Slaveholders subscribers, but I should ~~shrink~~  
shrink from throwing a stone at men ~~for an act~~ <sup>as they have</sup> who have  
made such sacrifices for conscience sake, ~~for an act~~ <sup>for an act</sup>  
purity of which their own consciences must decide. Want of ab-  
solute for the conscientious convictions of others, is too often the  
error of those who engage even in good works, it is often H. C. Wright's!



Your last letter to Mr. Corns & Co. contained too good an answer to a Lover  
of Charity & Justice to be lost. I begged permission of Mr. A. to make some  
extracts for the "Inquirer", and my daughter undertook the task of copying out  
what you will see I hope, in last Saturday's (Jan 7<sup>th</sup>) "Inquirer". I guess  
the writer of that letter is Mr. Montgomerie, brother of Mrs. M. of Taunton whom  
you remember; this brother has been in <sup>N. Orleans</sup> ~~Camden~~ & is settled at Louisville.  
I sent a little notice of Douglass's "falsehood!" to that No. of the Inquirer.

There is nothing in the letter from Mr. Kitter to forbid its  
being printed if you wish it; and <sup>as to</sup> ~~every~~ other information or  
opinion I send you, I have no objection to your making any use of them  
you think desirable. I am sure you will at once see what may be  
called private in my communications. — I ~~never~~ seldom but  
my name to what I write for the "Inquirer" or any other paper, but  
I am indifferent to any reference made to me <sup>in papers</sup> either here or in  
America. Our ladies have a great horror of seeing their names  
in newspapers excepting in lists with others.

In expressing myself as I did respecting Miss Martineau, I by no  
means would throw suspicion on her integrity: I cannot doubt that  
she is a firm believer in Mesmerism, & in speaking of her "fall" I merely  
meant in the estimation of the many who <sup>once</sup> appreciated her judg-  
ment & good sense more than they ever can again. The inability  
(apparently at least) of those who believe in Mesmerism fairly to ex-  
amine evidence, is most remarkable here. Briefly to state Miss  
M's mental condition on this point. Her servant J. is very unhappy  
about a shipwreck, her cousin being on board the unfortunate ship. —  
On Monday, J's female cousin goes from Invermouth to Shields to  
learn particular news, & hears them all at the owner's house, the sailors had  
<sup>they were anxious about</sup> being safe — She returns to Invermouth on that Monday: J. calls  
on her that same evening. On the next (Tuesday) evening, J. is  
questioned, & tells all about the shipwreck; her cousin &  
the life of one of the crew previously to the wreck; and Miss Martineau  
maintains that J. had heard no one circumstanced of the wreck  
until after this Tuesday evening; moreover is, — not on Monday  
evening while with her anxious cousin who had been to Shields &



heard the good news, not during any part of the Tuesday forenoon. I think  
it probable you may have faith in Mesm<sup>m</sup> - for I hardly ever conversed with  
an Amer<sup>n</sup> on the subject who did not believe, - but is not this statement  
too incredible for your credence? A surgeon of Manchester <sup>produces</sup> ~~performs~~  
all the usual mesmeric ~~operations~~ phenomena without any will, or  
making passes &c. merely by fixing the eyes, & concentrating the  
patients' attention to themselves & the expected effects: after a time  
they go off into a nervous state merely upon his telling them to do so.  
Remember, it is only some few persons who do exhibit these  
peculiar states of constitution. I believe that for more wonderful effects  
might be excited in some people by a powerful action on the imagination.

Have you seen the case of a M. de Ernest Valdemar, seen Westcliffe  
by Mesm<sup>m</sup> for 7 months after apparent dissection, said to be extracted  
from the "American Magazine", by Edgar A. Poe? M. Valdemar  
is said to be the author of the "Encyclopedia Americana" - Is this an  
American or an English heart?

Chambers's tract on "Slavery in America" is an admirable one  
for disseminating amongst people ~~and here~~ a knowledge of the ~~subject~~ <sup>enormous evil.</sup>  
To you it may appear tame: our first readers on the subject are ap-  
palled at its statements. My correspondent & friend Mr. Webb of Dublin  
is dissatisfied at the coldness of his remarks on the Abolitionists  
in America: but I trust you will take a comprehensive view of the  
matter: if the English are fully enlightened on Am<sup>n</sup> Slavery, are most  
anxious for its removal, applaud, & sympathize with "the Abolition-  
ists" in your country: - if in addition to a high appreciation  
of the cause of Abolition, and good wishes, & wise efforts for its success,  
the means of providing pecuniary help find their way into the  
hands of the original Massachusetts Society, you must not be  
disturbed at ~~our~~ <sup>not</sup> entering into, - not knowing much about, the  
apparent mischiefs of "old & new organizations", "Liberty, & Third Party":  
any attempt here to enter upon, & explain these distinctions (from  
the discussions among the Am<sup>n</sup> Lib<sup>l</sup>: which must necessarily be revealed)  
would produce unminged evil in the advocacy of your cause. -



To refer again to the Mr. Pitts negro, if you publish the letter, I think you had better omit the name of Messrs. Baillie, & say it is addressed to one of the first West Indian mercantile houses in Bristol. I have no objection to my authority being put in, if desirable, as a guarantee of the truth. — I sent Mr. Dayke a volume of Chambers's Miscellany; an atlas, & some books for his children, and Mr. Ames said many others —

I had hoped the acct. of the breakfast given to F. D. in Belfast, would have been in the "Bristol Mercury" of this day (Jan 23) but I suppose it was too long for this week's number. I will send you however our paper of this week, as it contains an abstract of the very interesting discussions that have taken place in the H. of Commons. The Queen's conduct has been admirable during our late Cabinet differences: to <sup>ascertain</sup> accomplish the desire of the mass of the nation, has obviously been her single aim. Sir Robt Peel's political opponents always support him when he advocates liberal measures, & as he is now happily doing in a very wholesome way. Our high Tories, & conservative would the conduct of the Aristocracy, have no great love for the Queen whom they think not sufficiently protective of their order. Sunday's Mercury has the whole of Sir R. Peel's free trade speech.

Thanks for the different books. The "Protector" is in a useful form. "Sumner's Oration" I was am very glad to see. Goodells, & Wendell Phillips treat. I had <sup>before</sup> the "Unit. Am. Register" will interest me. Messrs James & Co. may have recd. their copies.

I was glad to hear your report of our offering to the Boston Fair, (as we have now begun to call it, while you have exchanged to our former term "Bazaar".) It is satisfactory to us, to me especially, to be told that our sympathies and aims, are not only encouraging, but useful. I have sometimes a misgiving that in reading, writing, lecturing, & thinking a good deal about American Slavery, in which subject I confess myself <sup>deeply</sup> interested, I am <sup>not</sup> ~~not~~ <sup>which might be more usefully employed in narrow details</sup> absorbing time in contemplating an evil too vast & too distant for me to have the slightest power of remedying. Wishing to live up to the rule of not letting a day pass without doing some good to some body, I sometimes ask myself how I can expect to do any good in reference to the overwhelming evil of American Slavery? I shall look with interest for still further notices of the Fair.



300 / than your letters or the "Liberator" have yet afforded us. We are  
quite satisfied with your commandments of the British portion  
of the tobacco.

of the tribute.  
In referring to the difficulty I felt in defending your section of the  
Abolitionist's party, I am not in good company, as many excellent  
I was solely anxious to prevent the discouragement that many excellent  
persons are inclined to feel in the cause, when they obtain a knowledge  
of the disputes, dissensions & almost animosities prevailing among  
the various Abol. societies. They argue that a newly raised cause could  
not give rise to such uncandid, unforbearing sentiments as the dis-  
cussions betray. For my own part, though I see room for much  
improvement, there is quite enough of what is sensible & good in  
"old organized" Abol. to excite the feeble sympathy & aid that living  
at this distance from you, I am able to afford; and in my small  
circle of influence, I am not inactive in the cause.

circle of influence, I am not inactive in the cause.  
 You are our liberality in paying the freight of our box to the Fair.  
 Do not think of it as a small one! I think however we may arrange  
 these things more economically in future: the freight of our  
 last box to Liverpool & thence to Boston amounted to £4.17.6.  
 No Liberator came to Mr. James by the last packet: our latest No is thus  
 for Jan? & is no very distant <sup>date</sup> however, I must allow.  
 I am ever, Sir, your remembrance to you, & join me in

My daughter begs her kind remembrance to you, & joins me in  
best wishes for the health of Mrs May, yourself, & little family, and  
I remain, my dear Sir

Sincerely Yours

J. B. Estlin.

As my letter is over the  $\frac{1}{2}$  Ounce, I will inclose a copy of the entire of  
Dr. Doyle's which I have referred to, & send also a mem: from Miss Carpenter.  
The people have heard in the "Anti-Slavery" papers one of many interest-  
ing & personal: I wish we had something of the same <sup>kind!</sup> The "Inquirer" contains  
all that is worth knowing of the proceedings of English Unit's. I am very glad you  
see it. It ought to be better supported by our body. I have endeavored  
to stir them occasionally to a truer sense of the "Inquirer's" merits. If you







th  
Bristol, February 13: 1846

My dear Sir

Miss Carpenter allows me to put a note into her letter, & I embrace the opportunity of saying that I purpose sending you by the packet of the 10th an early number of a new London journal called the "Daily News" of which Mr. Dickens is one of the Editors, <sup>but said to be</sup> not connected with the political articles.

The copy I send you contains the first of a series of essays upon the Am. A. S. movement, probably by Dickens. The specimen I think argues well philosophically in its argument, perhaps not quite simple enough in style.

A popular London Paper giving a faithful history of your great enterprise will do much good, if the good opinions & sympathy of this country is likely to be of any real service to your cause.

The "Daily News" is begun with much spirit: the capital required to set going a daily London Paper is enormous, — probably from 50 to 100 000 pounds, and until it has established itself, the loss immense; 2, or 300 Pounds weekly are probably the regular loss of the Daily News. I trust it will succeed from the excellent tone it takes on philosophical subjects.



I will also forward by this Packet the two  
first numbers for this year of the A. S. Reporter  
which I believe is enlarged; & Joseph Sturge, I be-  
lieve you know, is one of the most prominent W. S.  
men with us: he, I believe, is not friendly to your  
party, but leans the Liberty section. I am more  
& more satisfied, than in exciting an interest here  
in favour of Am<sup>n</sup>. Abolitionism, it is unnecessary  
& undesir-able to enter into the divisions that  
have taken place on your side the Atlantic. and  
I greatly hope that the W. S. Foreign A. S. Society  
will soon bend its attention almost exclusively  
to Am<sup>n</sup>. Slavery, for there is little else for it now  
to do. I have written to John Locke the  
Sec<sup>y</sup>. about taking up Douglass & giving him all  
the importance the A. S. Soc<sup>y</sup>. can impart.

I am expecting Fred. Douglass to visit me  
next month, & hope to help in extending this  
his means in this neighbourhood a correct  
knowledge of southern slavery. The great  
number of his books circulated here will  
help on the matter: 150 copies have passed thro'  
my hands.

On looking at a portrait of Dr. H. Wane's  
Life, by his brother, I have been surprised & dis-  
appointed at finding no record of his Anti Slavery  
services later than 1835. Is this faithful  
to truth, & just to his memory? If it be, some  
extraordinary mistake prevails. I have be-  
fore me a letter addressed to me by Miss Martineau  
near, in which, speaking of Dr. Wane who was



just dead she says in the letter dated Dec. 1843  
that Dr. H. Ware "began badly & blindly" in the U.S.  
cause, but at length his views gradually enlarging,  
"the moment came for a truly glorious effort. On  
reading Dr. Hellen's life his soul was fired, -  
"he sent in his resignation to Harvard, & shed  
"happy tears at his release, tho' he had to go  
"forth with his, leaning to seek for bread, & without  
"health to rely upon. Every art & ready was used  
"by the College magnates to retain him, but  
"he said he had found freedom & would keep it,  
" & wrote to bless Mrs. Hellen as the means. -  
"His very last work was writing two A. S. Songs  
"for music. Scarcely another man in his  
"position, & with his frame would have done  
"so much. I hope his biography will tell all  
"this, & much more."

I should much like to know if these  
statements are correct, or if they partake of that  
misapprehension & exaggeration of which  
Miss M. is sometimes accused in her narrative  
of facts? If the latter be in any respect the case  
I may do not regret what I have written for I should  
be most unwilling to injure Miss M. in any way  
esteem: I shall be much pleased to hear the  
account is substantially true, tho' if so, it will  
not add laurels to Dr. H. Ware's biography.

You will I hope see in the "Inquirer" the  
answer & weak reply of a "Law of Justice & Charity"  
to your letter. If you chose to write a letter to the  
"Inquirer", saying you were the author of the remarks  
which were <sup>not</sup> intended for publication, <sup>and</sup> ~~and~~



were <sup>an</sup> applied to ~~any~~ <sup>an</sup> anonymous writer, it would  
rather add effect to what you had before said,  
& afford an opportunity of your saying any  
think more in propria persona. The  
complaints of "personality" towards an anonym-  
ous correspondent, is rather a curious one.

I find the task I have given to myself of  
stating in 2 or 3 pages the Am<sup>r</sup>.-abol<sup>r</sup>. question, an  
impracticable one. I shall endeavour to enlist  
the sympathies of people towards the cause generally,  
and, avoiding strong language, ~~and~~ (which is often  
poorer here than with you, & would prove offensive  
& injurious) to lead to the obvious inference that  
you clergy <sup>are</sup> unjustifiably apathetic in the subject.  
We have already received some articles for the  
next Boston Fair, & many promises of help.

What is your opinion as to the utility of  
the efforts referred to in the A. S. Reporter for  
obtaining free grown Cotton from India?

Do you know if Mrs H. Ware letters are  
interesting in the Abolition movement?

Believe me, my dear Sir,

Yours sincerely  
J. B. Estlin.

Recd - March 1846.

and by per April Steamship

Extract respecting  
Henry Ware Jr.



Just by the  
way, are the  
Gentlemen; we  
must like the ar-  
rangement from the books  
corner you cut  
Have you any  
know ledge of him?  
The diary is  
J. P. Cutler's  
am clear -  
I hope the  
papers & find  
can we not postage  
if not, \$3.00  
May 10. 1846

I have been amused by seeing in  
the "Liberator" of Jan. 30<sup>th</sup> Mr. Troy's note to  
me & Mr. Garrison's comment on it. There  
is no objection, as far as I see, to the publication  
of the note with <sup>the</sup> omission of all names which  
has been observed; but if the purpose of sending  
it to Mr. G. were to induce him to make any  
alteration in his mode of conducting the  
"Liberator," or of inducing him to make any  
allowance for, or even to comprehend the  
true ground of views differing from his own,  
I suspect it would be much as effectual as  
~~have~~ attempting to wet a duck by pouring  
water upon its back. I do not mean  
show Mr. Troy that Mr. of the "Liberator," for I  
am anxious not to prejudice her against  
the anti-slavery movement which I fear  
the personal of G's remarks would rather  
help to do.

I sincerely lament that the "Libe-  
rator" is not conducted more in unison with  
our views of the desirable characteristics of such  
a paper: there must be some difference of taste,



to me quite inexplicable, between your  
friends, and those on this side of the Atlantic:  
yet when you tell me that you removed the  
blame of flogging the women from Webster's  
narrative, I can hardly suppose that you  
& I individually, should differ materially.

But you cannot I think approve of the  
insertion of an article in the "Liberator" of the  
16<sup>th</sup> of January last? That No. contains  
some interesting documents, Mr. Giddings's  
speech, & the letter of Messrs. Linneman on  
& him respecting the N. Bedford Lyceum,  
but I can lend the paper to no one: — I even  
put it <sup>out of sight</sup> away in my own house: had I known  
of the disgusting article I allude to before  
it had been seen by any one, I would have  
cut it out. I doubt if there be any respectable  
<sup>new</sup> paper in England which would have inserted  
such remarks. Advertisements of indecent  
works on medical subjects are often inserted  
in our papers, but they are so <sup>introduced</sup> ~~inserted~~ as  
to attract little observation, & simply as  
advert. Many of our higher toned periodi-  
cals, would not introduce any thing of the  
sort. As our "Frisch Mercury" of which I  
forwarded you a copy, you will not see  
these advt. nor in the "Inquirer". If the No.  
the "Liberator" for Jan. 16 is allowed to live



about the table of the respectable people of  
Boston, I should be amazed! The edit. com.  
I refer to, can do no possible good; — the art  
is not to be thus reached. That may do no harm  
the subject unless in a future letter unless it  
be to say that you do, or do not coincide in  
my views as to the Liberator.

I believe I forgot to say in my letter a fortnight  
ago, that if you took my hint of sending a letter  
in propria persona to the "Inquirer" respecting  
the unauthorized publication of part of your  
letter to Mr. Armstrong — with something more,  
I shall be very happy to convey be the medium  
of communication so as to save the Editor expense.

I have completed a rough copy of the  
notice of Anti-Slavery & Anti-Mavery I had  
projected, but it has extended to almost the  
length of Chambers's tract on the subject.  
Should it ever reach your shores, it will not  
give satisfaction, but I think it will be of  
service here. I mean to print it & circulate  
it gratuitously. I feel compelled in justice  
to the A. M. cause unmuzzled us, and as  
a point of duty, to modify what I desired  
& meditated saying in recent number  
of the "Liberator" as a paper for circulation  
here. I could not find fault with any of your people  
for withholding their <sup>unions</sup> co-operation with an A. S. Society  
that expended its funds in circulating the  
Liberator. I do not so far as to say I should



T. Conplatt

Feb. 23, 1846.

Take to Boston

Shew Mr. Chubb

Garrison?

Feb. 1846

⊕

Rev. S. May,  
Leicester,  
Massachusetts.

on those grounds refuse my cooperation  
but I could thoroughly excuse others for  
adopting the course. I presume you think  
me a factious, hypercritical person; but I  
can assure <sup>you</sup> it is with deep regret that I hold  
bound to say what I do, and that my sentiments on  
the subject are more moderate than those of the  
usual circle of my friends. However, God is not with  
one rule all his good - Sincerely Yours J. P. Estlin



Leicester, Massachusetts, Feb. 26. 1846.

My dear Sir,

I am disappointed in finding time, as I had expected to do, to write you at much length, but cannot let the opportunity of sending by the 1<sup>st</sup> March Ship go by, without at least acknowledging & thanking you for your kind and most welcome letter of Jan. 29. - to Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>, and also for the volumes of "Chambers's Miscellany" which came safely to hand <sup>with your letter.</sup> by same ship. Please give my best thanks - a poor return - to your daughter for this handsome gift & kind attention to my children. My little girl (the eldest, 9½ years) is delighted with the books, which she esteems a great treasure, and has had one or another of them in her hands almost constantly all this week. It so happens she has a ~~vacation~~ vacation from school this week, & so more time than usual to give to reading of which she is very fond - almost too fond. She will not omit herself to write a note to Miss Estlin, for her brother as well as herself. I am much pleased with the volumes. They seem to afford a remarkably well-chosen miscellany, instructive and agreeable at once. Mrs. May ~~is~~ also feels much obliged to your daughter for her kind attentions.

The two copies of your communication to "Bristol Mercury" (if I am right in the paper) which you enclosed to me, I have sent to the "Liberator" and "N. H. Anti-Sl. Standard", which will doubtless publish it. - You will before this have seen in the Liberator the letter from W. Douglass of St. Kitts. I fear



that the names of ~~others~~ the merchants to whom the letter was addressed were made public; but as I have lost that paper, cannot now make sure of it. Of Mr. Ames I spoke as Mr. A—. I saw they did not print the letter verbatim, as I designed they should; for I sent Mr. Garrison the identical copy you sent to me.

You will have seen in the "Liberator" of Jan. 30., a long editorial on the Freedom of the Press, in which reference is made to some remarks of yours & to the Note of Mrs. Fry which you sent me (without giving any names however.) As that note seemed to concern Mr. Garrison, I thought I would send it to him, yet with no idea that he would think it worth while to make it the subject of <sup>public</sup> ~~special~~ comment. Yet I hope you will not ~~deem~~ <sup>be</sup> displeased. I see, myself, nothing in his giving the note publicity which can be objected to by the lady who wrote it, though she may deem his criticism somewhat severe.

I repeat I had not the most distant thought that he would publish the note when I sent it. I may sometimes go too far in this matter of publication. The fear of doing so has led me to refrain from sending extracts from many letters I have had from abroad (& especially from my Bristol friends) which I thought ~~would~~ were valuable. And here I must

thank you & your daughter for the pains you took to make the extracts from my letter to Mr. Armstrong & send them to the "Inquirer". I am glad you thought it worth sending. I thank you, because I did greatly want to see the Tavitock letter noticed, and it seems no <sup>other</sup> one had noticed it. You say the gentleman (whom you have reason to believe wrote it) had resided

Ms. B. 1.6 v. 2, p. 14



same time in N. Orleans. You can hardly be aware how perfectly that explains to my mind his whole letter. Such cases are unfortunately not infrequent here - Northern men go South, and write home, or come home & tell, ~~how~~ what excellent & hospitable people slaveholders generally are - how well off the "niggers" are - how much harm the Abolitionists are doing. Meanwhile these people are getting into Southern good graces, make money, buy slaves themselves, & profess to think it all right enough.

I fear you will not be able to obtain a copy of "Stroud" on the Slave Laws. I know it is very ~~diffi~~ rarely to be met with.

I have ~~never~~ <sup>not yet</sup> seen A.C. Wright's pamphlet on the Union. He is a very uncompromising spirit. I feel a very great respect for him, and though he often startles me much, yet he much ~~often~~ commends himself to my mind as essentially right & truthful. With all his ultra-ism (so-called) he has I think a large fund of good, plain, common sense; and he has become a very shrewd observer of men & manners, stripping off the outside guises and seemings, & showing customs, institutions, &c. more nearly as they are, than we have been wont to see, and men as too often their victims. I hope you may see A.C.W. before he leaves Eng<sup>d</sup>. I believe you have not seen him, but am not sure.

By this opportunity I send to yourself and Mr. Armstrong each a copy of the last Annual Report of the "Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society", the old "pioneer society", the Society which embraces such men as Garrison, Phillips, Quincy, F. & E. Jackson, Sprague, Remond, Philbrick, and such women as Mrs. Chapman, the Misses Weston, Mrs. Follen, Miss Cabot, and commands the sympathies of such persons (living in other states) as Burleigh, Pillsbury, Mr. Kim, <sup>Abby Kelley</sup> Lucretia Mott,



I said (I may add, ~~in~~ not in vanity but in common justice to him) of Samuel J. May, now of Syracuse, New York. And while speaking of him, I will just stop to say I wish you knew him. He is now in the 49<sup>th</sup> year of his age, and is, and long has been, "every inch of him", a Christian minister, fearless, yet gentle of spirit to a degree unusual <sup>in</sup> with man or woman, full of kindness to every human being, ready to help all "without partiality, & without hypocrisy", and consecrating all his talents (not naturally brilliant, yet highly respectable, and faithfully cultivated in the school of practical religion) to the great cause of Christ & Humanity, in every aspect in which they present themselves to his mind. But this is a digression. If you should meet with H. C. Wright, pray ask him what kind of a man S. J. May is. I would all of his name did as much to make the name honorable. I hope at some day he may visit England. But I see little prospect of it. His property is small, and always will be. Were his income 10 times what it is, he could not keep it. Relatives in want, objects of charity of every kind, absorb all (and more) that he can spare from his own family. - But to <sup>go</sup> back to the "Report". I have not read it in the pamphlet (which I only received yesterday) but I heard <sup>the</sup> larger part of it read by Mr. Quincy (its author) at the Anti-Slavery Meeting. It contains a pretty full history of the Anti-Slavery Year 1845, - (better to call the year that brought in James K. Polk and annexed Texas a Pro-Slavery year, I think) - and as such, I think, will interest you. I also send you a copy of the "New York Weekly Tribune", simply as a specimen of that paper, which is one of the very best <sup>political</sup> newspapers of the land - in my judgment, taking all things into account, superior to any other; and that is the opinion of a very large number. You may also be pleased to see the Discourse on the Life, &c. of Henry Ware D.D. (Senior) by Dr. Palfrey. I send too (happening to have a spare copy) the Eulogy which my Cousin above-named - S. J. M. - gave on Dr. Follen, before the "Massachusetts Anti-Slavery